Music and theater courses at St. George's help students explore various means of creative expression. Beginning music students may learn to read music for the first time, while more technically proficient musicians may be challenged to conduct, orchestrate and compose. Meanwhile budding thespians can learn the major facets of set, lighting and costume design, as well as basic production techniques in the Elements of Stagecraft course. Students wishing to pursue higher-level acting techniques can create and bring a character to the stage in the Acting Craft class.

Music

**Music Foundation: Music 201, Music 203**

*Open to all forms*

This course is designed for students who have little or no background in music, or for those with some playing experience who want to augment their overall musicianship. As an introduction to the fundamentals of music, students study music notation, theory, reading, listening, history and composition. Basic keyboard skills are introduced and incorporated into the class. Computer-based learning using Musescore provides opportunities to compose music based on the styles and genres covered in class. Offered fall (201) and spring (203).

**Music Theory: Music 222, Music 223**

*Open to all forms; Prerequisite Music Foundation or by invitation*

This intermediate course is designed for students who already have a basic foundation in music reading and writing skills. Going beyond the fundamentals of music theory, students delve more deeply into composition and into more advanced harmony and counterpoint theory. Basic keyboard skills are reinforced and computer-based learning using Musescore offer opportunities to compose music based on the styles and genres covered in class. After completion of this course, successful students are prepared for the Advanced Placement Music Theory course. Offered winter (222) and spring (223).

**Survey of Western Music: Music 233**

*Open to all forms*

This course is designed to introduce the hallmarks of music literature to those students who may have had little experience or exposure to classical music. The course will concentrate on the historic development of music rather than on theoretical analysis, an approach that is appealing to a wide range of student interest including both musicians and newcomers to this field. Students develop an educated and critical ear in order to enhance their enjoyment of all the music they hear. Repertoire focuses on Western culture beginning with the Middle Ages through the 20th century. The text used is *Listen* by Joseph Kerman. Offered spring only.

**Chapel Choir: Music 250-C, Music 260-C**

*Open to third- and fourth-formers; a half-credit course*

The Chapel Choir is open to all vocalists regardless of ability. Throughout the year students will perform at a variety of events, from the festive Christmas celebrations, Parents Weekend, Reunion Weekend, and Prize Day, as well as of the weekly chapel services. Students who enroll in Choir as a year-long course receive a letter grade for each trimester and 1.5 credits toward the Arts requirement (instead of the standard 3 for a full-time academic course). Students enrolled for credit are also expected to complete homework which may include sectional rehearsals and collaboration with peers to explore the history, math and science behind choral music. Students who volunteer for
Choir receive no credit and are expected only to attend all full rehearsals, Chapel services and other performances. Third-formers should enroll in Music 250-C; fourth-formers in Music 260-C.

**Jazz Ensemble: Music 250-J, Music 260-J**

*Open to third- and fourth-formers; a half-credit course*

The Jazz Ensemble is open to all instrumentalists and vocalists regardless of ability. Throughout the year students will perform a wide variety of material from early to modern jazz, and gain a better understanding of how their instruments function within each style. They will also be expected to play improvised solos based on understanding of chords/scales and melodic elements (use of sequence, instrumental range, space, etc.). The Jazz Ensemble will perform for the public four to six times per year; students who enroll in Jazz Ensemble as a year-long course receive a letter grade for each trimester and 1.5 credits toward the Arts requirement (instead of the standard 3 for a full-time academic course). Students enrolled for credit are also expected to complete homework which may include sectional rehearsals and collaboration with peers to explore the history, math and science behind choral music. Students who volunteer for Jazz Ensemble receive no credit and are expected only to attend all full rehearsals and performances. Third-formers should enroll in Music 250-J; fourth-formers in Music 260-J.

**Orchestra: Music 250-O, Music 260-O**

*Open to third- and fourth-formers; a half-credit course*

The Orchestra is open to all instrumentalists regardless of ability. Throughout the year students will perform a wide variety of material from Baroque to Modern, and gain a better understanding of how their instruments function within each style. The Orchestra will perform for the public four to six times per year; students who enroll in Jazz Ensemble as a year-long course receive a letter grade for each trimester and 1.5 credits toward the Arts requirement (instead of the standard 3 for a full-time academic course). Students enrolled for credit are also expected to complete homework, which may include sectional rehearsals and collaboration with peers to explore the history, math and science behind choral music. Students who volunteer for Orchestra receive no credit and are expected only to attend all full rehearsals and performances. Third-formers should enroll in Music 250-O; fourth-formers in Music 260-O.

**Chapel Choir: Music 450-C, Music 460-C**

*Open to fifth- and sixth-formers; a half-credit course*

The Chapel Choir is open to all vocalists regardless of ability. Throughout the year students will perform at a variety of events, from the festive Christmas celebrations, Parents Weekend, Reunion Weekend, and Prize Day, as well as of the weekly chapel services. Students who enroll in Choir as a yearlong course receive a letter grade for each trimester and 1.5 credits toward the Arts requirement (instead of the standard 3 for a full-time academic course). Students enrolled for credit are also expected to complete homework, which may include sectional rehearsals and collaboration with peers to explore the history, math and science behind choral music. Students who volunteer for Choir receive no credit and are expected only to attend all full rehearsals, Chapel services and other performances. Fifth-formers should enroll in Music 450-C; sixth-formers in Music 460-C.

**Jazz Ensemble: Music 450-J, Music 460-J**

*Open to fifth- and sixth-formers; a half-credit course*

The Jazz Ensemble is open to all instrumental and vocalists regardless of ability. Throughout the year students will perform a wide variety of material from early to modern jazz, and gain a better understanding of how their instruments function within each style. They will also be expected to play improvised solos based on understanding
of chords/scales and melodic elements (use of sequence, instrumental range, space, etc.). The Jazz Ensemble will perform for the public four to six times per year; students who enroll in Jazz Ensemble as a year-long course receive a letter grade for each trimester and 1.5 credits toward the Arts requirement (instead of the standard 3 for a full-time academic course). Students enrolled for credit are also expected to complete homework which may include sectional rehearsals and collaboration with peers to explore the history, math and science behind choral music. Students who volunteer for Jazz Ensemble receive no credit and are expected only to attend all full rehearsals and performances. Fifth-formers should enroll in Music 450-J; sixth-formers in Music 460-J.

**Orchestra: Music 450-O, Music 460-O**

*Open to fifth- and sixth-formers; a half-credit course*

The Orchestra is open to all instrumentalists regardless of ability. Throughout the year students will perform a wide variety of material from Baroque to Modern, and gain a better understanding of how their instruments function within each style. The Orchestra will perform for the public four to six times per year; students who enroll in Jazz Ensemble as a year-long course receive a letter grade for each trimester and 1.5 credits toward the Arts requirement (instead of the standard 3 for a full-time academic course). Students enrolled for credit are also expected to complete homework, which may include sectional rehearsals and collaboration with peers to explore the history, math and science behind choral music. Students who volunteer for Orchestra receive no credit and are expected only to attend all full rehearsals and performances. Fifth-formers should enroll in Music 450-O; sixth-formers in Music 460-O.

**Theater**

**Theater Foundation I: Theater 201, Theater 202**

*Open to all forms*

Theater Foundation is a trimester course designed to introduce students to the basic historical and practical aspects of the craft of theater, as well as the necessary skills required to understand the fundamentals of the actor’s process. By examining multiple approaches to performance technique and devoting equal time to developing the qualities of mind, body and voice, the students will begin to understand the synergy necessary to train a fully integrated actor. Time will be spent working on genres and styles ranging from Shakespeare to Modern Realism and on exercises developed by Constanin Stanislavsky, Cicely Berry, Tadashi Suzuki and others. There will be a series of performances throughout the semester, including a monologue as part of the final exam, but the emphasis of the course lies in the acting process, rather than the final product. Offered fall (201) and winter (202).

**Theater Foundation II: Theater 212, Theater 213**

*Open to all forms*

Theater Foundation is a trimester-long course designed to introduce students to the basic historical and practical aspects of the craft of theater, as well as the necessary skills required to understand the fundamentals of the actor’s process. By examining multiple approaches to performance technique and devoting equal time to developing the qualities of mind, body and voice, the students will begin to understand the synergy necessary to train a fully integrated actor. Time will be spent working on genres and styles ranging from Shakespeare to Modern Realism and on exercises developed by Constanin Stanislavsky, Cicely Berry, Tadashi Suzuki and others. There will be a series of performances throughout the semester, including a monologue as part of the final exam, but the emphasis of the course lies in the acting process, rather than the final product.
**Acting Craft: Theater 311, Theater 313**

*Open by invitation to third-form and to fourth-, fifth- and sixth-formers; Prerequisite Theater Foundation or permission of the department*

Acting Craft is a trimester course designed to introduce students to the process of developing a fully realized character for the stage. Building on the fundamentals of the Stanislavskian acting process, students will be expected to delve deeper into physical and vocal acting choices and scene work, in order to create believable characters for the stage. Through a range of exercises focusing on voice and speech, Shakespeare, the physical actor and analytical skills, each student will work towards building a character that is an echo of the student, but falls somewhere outside of their reality. There will be a series of presentations throughout the semester, including Shakespeare, Non-realist, and a full production of a short modern play as part of your final exam, but the emphasis of the course lies in the acting process, rather than the final product. Offered fall (311) and spring (313).

**Dramatic Literature: Theater 501, Theater 502, Theater 503**

*Open to sixth-formers and by invitation to fifth-formers; Prerequisite Theater Foundation or completion of the Arts requirement*

Sixth-formers and, by invitation, fifth-formers may enroll in this course for one, two (in any combination, or all three trimesters. The course is devoted to playwrights and their readers; we spend the fall and winter discussing and performing in-class readings and writing prompted reflections. We devote the fall (501) to “The Timely Plays,” reading about issues of race (“Clybourne Park”), class (“Good People”), war and internationalism (“Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo”) and spirituality (“Doubt”). In the winter we explore “The Timeless Plays:” dramatic structure – “Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf” – a sense of the whole – “A Raisin in the Sun” – and the protagonist’s job in a play – “Hamlet” or another Shakespearean selection. In the spring, we devote ourselves to “Your Plays.” Students will conduct in-class writing exercises and workshops while discussing each other’s works-in-progress. Topics will include the importance of the “status quo,” creating a dramatic structure that works, committing to a protagonist, writing believable dialogue and why immediacy works. Offered fall (501), winter (502) and spring (503) alone or in any combination.